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Respectfully submitted,

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Application of: Ulrich BITTROFF et al.

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Filed Herewith

VERSION OF SPECIFICATION AND CLAIMS AMENDMENTS
WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, paragraph [0002]:

[0002] A request for a call [inevitably] typically involves the disclosure of one's own telephone number. In the case of newspaper advertisements, a way out presents itself [mostly] via a box number, or code number, which, however, prevents an immediate contact of the interested party with the advertiser, resulting in delays. Moreover, the interested party then has to express himself/herself in writing. However, if the telephone number is indicated in a newspaper advertisement, then it is [mostly] generally possible to identify the owner of the telephone number via electronic data bases which allow a number search, resulting in the possibility of abuse. Thus, for instance, a public offer of selling a precious object may attract burglars. The possibility of publishing an advertisement under a box number has to be completely ruled out for some publications such as in the case of pin walls with private announcements in stores or schools.

Page 1, paragraph [0003]:

[0003] Therefore, [the] an object of the present invention is to [open to] provide the capability for a subscriber of a telecommunications network [the possibility of being] to be called without the caller knowing [his/her] the subscriber's telephone number, hereinafter also referred to as permanent identifier.

Page 2, paragraph [0006]:

[0006] [An advantageous] In an embodiment of the method according to the present invention [consists in that] the trust center [is constituted by] includes a code server in conjunction with a service control function of the telecommunications network which is at least partially designed as an intelligent network, and in that the routing of the anonymous identifier from the switching center and the transmission of the permanent identifier to the switching center take place via a service switching function of the intelligent network.

Page 2, paragraph [0007]:

[0007] To limit the stock of numbers which has to be kept ready for the anonymous identifier, it is provided according to [a refinement] an embodiment to delete the anonymous identifier at a predetermined time after the assignment. In [a practical application] an embodiment of the method according to the present invention, the predetermined time will be established in accordance with the period of time within which the destination subscriber will still expect calls after his/her publication, for example, the advertisement, such as, for example, one or two weeks. Due to this time limitation of the anonymous identifier, moreover, an insignificant interest in an unauthorized intrusion into the trust center is to be expected so that simple protective measures are sufficient, if indicated.

Page 3, paragraph [0009]:

[0009] [Another beneficial] In an embodiment of the present invention [consists in that] a permanent identifier can be assigned only one anonymous identifier at a time. In this manner, an abusive extension of the assignment of anonymous identifiers is prevented.

Page 3, paragraph [0010]:

[0010] In an [expedient] embodiment of the present invention, provision is made for an authorization check to be carried out before the trust center assigns the anonymous identifier. This check can prevent, for example, an unauthorized person from generating an anonymous identifier for a call number.

Page 3, paragraph [0012]:

[0012] According to an [advantageous] embodiment of the present invention, a user-friendly assignment of the anonymous identifier can be effected in that the request for the assignment of the anonymous identifier and the communication thereof take place over the internet. Consequently, the user can be advantageously guided via suitable graphical user interfaces, information and entries complementing one another in an expedient manner.

Page 5, paragraph [0020]:

[0020] In [a refinement] an embodiment of the present invention, provision is made for the destination subscriber to be informed of this fact by a perceivable signaling when a return call is established using the anonymous identifier. It is then possible for the destination subscriber to adapt his/her behavior, in particular, to accept or reject the return call.

Page 5, paragraph [0021]:

[0021] In [a further refinement of this specific embodiment,] another embodiment of the present invention a return call between the initiating subscriber and the destination subscriber can also be achieved in that a connection requested by the initiating subscriber is automatically established from the destination subscriber upon completion of the signaling after the destination subscriber has confirmed that a connection is to be established, the connection being automatically effected from the destination subscriber to the initiating subscriber.

Page 6, paragraph [0025]:

[0025] To allow the code server to be identified, [another refinement] an embodiment of the present invention [makes provision] provides for an identifier which identifies the code server to be added to the anonymous identifier.

Page 7, paragraph [0029]:

[0029] [Exemplary embodiments of the present invention are depicted in the drawing with reference to several Figures and will be explained in greater detail in the following description.] Further details and advantages of the present invention will become apparent in the following description based on exemplary embodiments, with reference to the drawings.

Page 12 first line : --WHAT IS CLAIMED IS-- [What is claimed is].